

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 JUSE-00 SY-05 MCT-01

/108 W

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P R 110109Z DEC 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1606

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 6078

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, UR

SUBJECT: SIXTH COMMITTEE (LEGAL)- HOST COUNTRY RELATIONS

REF: USUN 5986 AND USUN 5999

SUMMARY: SIXTH COMMITTEE PASSED BY CONSENSUS DEC. 10 VERY BRIEF RESOLUTION WHICH "ACCEPTS THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH THE HST COUNTRY". AGREEMENT ON THIS WORDING WAS ACEPTED BY USSR AFTER INTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS OVER TWO-DAY PERIOD IN WHICH USSR HAD TAKEN POSITION THAT IT COULD NOT NOW AGREE TO CONFIRM A POSITIVE REFERENCE TO USG SECURITY MEASURES WHICH WAS CONTAINED IN HOST COUNTRY RELATIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO WHICH USSR HAD AGREED LAST MONTH. END SUMMARY.

1. FOLLOWING INTRODUCTION OF UKRAINIAN RESOLUTION -- OBVIOUSLY AT SOVIET BEHEST -- ON DEC. 8, USUN AND UKUN COORDINATED EFFORTS TO MARSHALL OPPOSITION TO THAT RESOLUTION AND SUPPORT FOR RES TABLED BY UK AND OTHERS WHICH CLOSELY FOLLOWED RECOMMENDATIONS OF HOST COUNTRY COMMITTEE. UKRAINIAN DRAFT WAS CO-SPONSORED BY BULGARIA, CUBA, CZECHO, GDR, HUNGARY AND MONGOLIA. UK DRAFT WAS ORIGINALLY COSPONSORED BY ARGNTINA, BELGIUM, DENMARK, FRG, HONDURAS, IRELAND, ITALY, NETHERLANDS AND LIBERIA, GRENADA, ZAIRE, NIGER, BOTSWANA AND URGUAY SUBSEQUENTLY JOINED IN COSPONSORING UK RES. MEANWHILE, UK MAINTAINED EFFORT WITH USSR TO WORK OUT AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD MAINTAIN CERTINA ESSENTIAL

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ELEMENTS OF HOST COUNTRY RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH DID NOT APPEAR

IN UKRAINIAN RESOLUTION.

2. MAJOR SOVIET PROBLEM WAS WITH FIRST OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH OF HOST COUNTRY RECOMMENDATIONS, REGARDING SECURITY OF MISSIONS AND SAFETY OF PERSONNEL, WHICH "NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THE ASSURANCES GIVEN BY THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES OF THE HOST COUNTRY AND RECOGNIZES THE USEFULNESS OF THE VARIOUS MEASURES TAKEN TO THIS END." REMINDED THAT THEY HAD AGREED TO THIS FORMULATION IN HOST COUNTRY COMMITTEE, SOVDEL MERELY MAINTAINED THAT THEY COULD NOT NOW ACCEPT POSITIVE REFERENCE TO SECURITY MEASURES TAKEN BY USG HOST COUNTRY.

3. IN SIXTH COMMITTEE MEETING DEC. 9, COSTA RICA (RAPporteur OF HOST COUNTRY COMMITTEE) PROPOSED RESOLUTION WHOSE OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS WOULD FOLLOW ALMOST EXACTLY THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF HOST COUNTRY COMMITTEE. SUCH RESOLUTION WAS FORMALLY SUBMITTED DEC. 9 BY SPAIN, WITH AUSTRALIA, CANADA, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AS COSPONSORS (A/C.6/31/L23). USUN EFFORT TO MOBILIZE OPPOSITION TO SOVIET MOVE CONTINUED, AND AT OUR BEHEST INDIA APPEALED TO USSR TO DROP ITS OPPOSITION AND TO ACCEPT THE HOST COUNTRY RECOMMENDATIONS. (INDIA MADE POSITIVE REFERENCE TO USG SECURITY MEASURES IN ITS OWN STATEMENT TO SIXTH COMMITTEE ON DEC. 9.)

4. GOVERNOR SCRANTON SPOKE SEVERAL TIMES DEC. 9 AND 10 WITH KUZNETSOV. SCRANTON NOTED THAT UKRAINIAN RES WAS TOTALLY UNBALANCED AND UNACCEPTABLE TO US; ITS APPROVAL WOULD MAKE OUR TASK AS HOST COUNTRY MORE DIFFICULT; WE WERE BY NO MEANS ENTIRELY HAPPY WITH ALL ASPECTS OF HOST COUNTRY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS BUT WE HAD ACCEPTED THEM AS CONSENSUS IN HOST COUNTRY COMMITTEE OUT OF SPIRIT OF COMPROMISE. SCRANTON URGED KUZNETSOV TO REVIEW SOVIET POSITION, DROP UKRAINIAN RES, AND SUPPORT RES CONFIRMING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HOST COUNTRY COMMITTEE. IN LAST CONVERSATION BETWEEN SCRANTON AND KUZNETSOV ON THIS SUBJECT, DEC. 10 MORNING, LATTER INDICATED HE WAS STILL OPPOSED TO SPECIFIC POSITIVE REFERENCE TO USG SECURITY MEASURES.

5. LATER THE SAME MORNING, USSR REP IN SIXTH COMMITTEE
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INDICATED TO US THAT USSR WOULD AGREE TO A VERY BRIEF RESOLUTION, WHICH "ACCEPTS THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH THE HOST COUNTRY." (THE OTHER TWO PARAGRAPHS OF THIS RESOLUTION MERELY PROVIDE FOR CONTINUING THE WORK OF THE HOST COUNTRY COMMITTEE AND INCLUDING THE REPORT BY THAT COMMITTEE IN PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 32ND SESSION -- FULL TEXT BY SEPTTEL.)

6. COMMENT: WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT CONSIDERATIONS LED USSR TO TRY TO BACK DOWN FROM RECOMMENDATIONS REACHED LAST MONTH BY CONSENSUS IN HOST COUNTRY COMMITTEE TO WHICH IT WAS A PARTY. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THEIR POSITION WAS REALTED TO PROBLEMS ON OTHER ITEMS IN SIXTH COMMITTEE, IN WHICH WE AND THEY HAVE FOUND OURSELVES IN CONFLICT. THESE PROBLEMS SEEMED CREATED BY USSR MAINLY TO ACHIEVE DISAGREEMENT WITH US. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT, ON REFLECTION, THEY FELT THEY HAD GONE TOO FAR IN HOST COUNTRY COMMITTEE IN MAKING ANY POSITIVE REFERENCE TO WHAT US HAS DONE TO PROVIDE FOR SECURITY OF MISSIONS HERE. USSR MUST HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED BY EVIDENCES OF BROAD SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT FOR CONFIRMING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF HOST COUNTRY COMMITTEE, AND OBVIOUS LACK OF PLEASURE AMONG OTHER COUNTRIES WITH UNBALANCED RESOLUTION TABLED BY THE UKRAINE. WE PRESUME USSR CONCLUDED THE BEST WAY OUT WAS TO AGREE TO ACCEPT THE HOST COUNTRY RESOLUTION IN A WAY WHICH AVOIDED EXPLICITLY SPELLING THEM OUT AGAIN. IN OUR OPINION, THIS SOLUTION MAINTAINS THE AGREEMENT REACHED IN HOST COUNTRY COMMITTEE ON THIS PARTICULAR SUBJECT, AND THE RES NOW BEING SENT TO PLENARY REPRESENTS A CLEAR ADVANCE OVER UNGA RESOLUTIONS ON HOST COUNTRY ITEM IN PREVIOUS YEARS. END COMMENT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL HARASSMENT, UNGA RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USUNN06078
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760457-0394
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761250/aaaabqwn.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION L
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 USUN NEW YORK 5986, 76 USUN NEW YORK 5999
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <03 SEP 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SIXTH COMMITTEE (LEGAL)- HOST COUNTRY RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, UR, UNGA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006